


## REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted (a) to remove improper multiple dependencies in the claims; (b) to remove "means-plus-function" terminology in claims 1, 3, and 5; (c) to present several claims (i.e., claims 22 and 23) that are directed to subject matter previously presented in multiple dependent claims; (d) to present a new independent claim (claim 24) that is directed to subject matter similar to that of original claim 1; (e) to provide a cross-reference to a related application; and (f) to place the appropriate headings in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested, and an expeditious examination is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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